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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
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REPORT

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. On 28 June 1954, the East German Ministry of Heavy Industry issued the following instructions to the DIA and DHZ:

a. Reduce allocations of raw materials as much as possible to that section of East German private industry engaged in the manufacturing of detergents and cosmetics.

b. Channel such raw material supplies from the 1954 Plan as are made available by these reductions of allocations into export.

2. DIA and DHZ officials were refused written confirmation of these instructions by the Ministry. They were instructed to carry out these instructions in a "discreet manner" and not to alter the official 1954 plan allocation of raw materials allotted to that section of the East German economy. They were not to give the non-VEB plants a convenient argument for protesting changes.

3. This order was, furthermore, explained by Ministry officials as being based on two factors:

a. A certain oversupply of these products on the East German market compared to the estimated demands for 1954.

b. An urgent need to push East German exports to earn foreign currency assets.